

REMARKS

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups: (I) claims 1-32, 44-52 and 57-59 drawn to a method/system for cleaning a reticle; (II) claims 33-43 and 53-55 drawn to a method for cleaning a reticle; and (III) claim 56 drawn to a photomask cleaning cover. In addition, the Examiner required election of a single disclosed species from the following: (1) Figure 4; (2) Figure 5; (3) Figure 8; (4) Figure 9; and (5) Figure 10.


In response, the applicants elect Group I, claims 1-32, 44-52 and 57-59, without traverse. Claims 33-43, 53-55 and 56 have been canceled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part or other application. Applicants also elect Species 2 related to the embodiment shown in Figure 5. Based on the applicants' review of the application, claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10-12, 14-16, 18-23, 25-30, 32, 44-46, 49, 51 and 57-59 read on the embodiment of Figure 5, and claims 1, 20, 44 and 57 are generic. Non-elected claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 13, 17, 24, 31, 47, 48, 50 and 52 have been withdrawn without prejudice to consideration of these claims upon allowance of a generic claim.

Applicants accordingly request examination of claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10-12, 14-16, 18-23, 25-30, 32, 44-46, 49, 51 and 57-59. Upon allowance of any of the generic claims, applicants request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claims.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,
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